



Complete Summary

TITLE

Oncology: percentage of patients with a diagnosis of cancer receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy with a pathology report in the medical record that confirms malignancy prior to the initiation of therapy.

SOURCE(S)

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Jun. 48 p. [16 references]

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients with a diagnosis of cancer receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy with a pathology report in the medical record that confirms malignancy prior to the initiation of therapy.

RATIONALE

The extent of the tumor must be determined and recorded for staging; this will facilitate treatment decisions, determine prognosis, and allow a comparison of treatment results.*

*The following clinical recommendation statements are quoted verbatim from the referenced clinical guidelines and represent the evidence base for the measure:

The cognitive process of treatment planning requires the radiation oncologist to have knowledge of the natural history of the tumor to be treated and to determine the tumor site, its extent, and its relationship with adjacent normal tissues. This process is based on consideration of the history, physical examination, endoscopy, diagnostic imaging, findings at surgery, and histology. (American College of Radiology [ACR])

A practice must demonstrate that it performs an adequate clinical evaluation by taking a patient history, performing a physical examination, reviewing pertinent diagnostic studies and reports, determining the extent of the tumor for staging purposes, and communicating with the referring physician and certain other physicians involved in the patient's care. (American College of Radiation Oncology [ACRO])

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Cancer; chemotherapy; radiation therapy; pathology report confirmation of malignancy

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

All patients with a diagnosis of cancer receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field in the Complete Summary)

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Patients with a pathology report in the medical record that confirms malignancy prior to the initiation of therapy

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

NATIONAL GUIDELINE CLEARINGHOUSE LINK

- [ACR practice guideline for radiation oncology.](#)

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Unspecified

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use**CARE SETTING**

Ambulatory Care

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Individual Clinicians

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Unspecified

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component**INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE**

Unspecified

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Getting Better
Living with Illness

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

All patients with a diagnosis of cancer receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

All patients with a diagnosis of cancer receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy

Exclusions

Documentation of a medical reason(s) for not having a pathology report in the medical record that confirms malignancy prior to the initiation of therapy (e.g., palliative treatment for metastatic illness)

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition
Therapeutic Intervention

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window brackets index event

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**Inclusions**

Patients with a pathology report in the medical record that confirms malignancy prior to the initiation of therapy

Exclusions

None

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Episode of care

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data
Medical record

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure**SCORING**

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Measure #10: pathology report.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Measurement Sets](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set](#)

SUBMITTER

American Medical Association on behalf of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®

DEVELOPER

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American Society of Clinical Oncology
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FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Unspecified

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FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts, if any, are disclosed in accordance with the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® conflict of interest policy.

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2007 Oct

REVISION DATE

2008 Jun

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

SOURCE(S)

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Jun. 48 p. [16 references]

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Measure #10: Pathology Report," is published in the "Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set." This document and technical specifications are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Web site: www.physicianconsortium.org.

For further information, please contact AMA staff by e-mail at cqi@ama-assn.org.

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on September 8, 2008. The information was verified by the measure developer on October 16, 2008.

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